

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIAGO 03078 022159Z

67

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

OMB-01 EB-07 /068 W

----- 007585

R 022111Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3157

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: CI, PGOV

SUBJ: NEW MINISTER OF MINES DESIGNATED

REF: SANTIAGO 2929

1. CIVILIAN ENRIQUE VALENZUELA BLANQUIER WAS APPOINTED MINISTER OF MINES APRIL 30. IN ACCEPTANCE REMARKS, VALENZUELA SAID THAT THE CABINET POSITION HAD BEEN OFFERED TO HIM ONLY A FEW HOURS BEFORE SHORT OFFICIAL CEREMONY PRESIDED OVER BY PRESIDENT PINOCHET.

2. FORMER MINE ECONOMY FERNANDO LENIZ SAME DAY WAS DESIGNATED AS A VICE PRESIDENT (MINES MINISTER IS PRESIDENT) OF CHILE'S COPPER CORPORATION (CODELCO) AND REPORTEDLY WILL DIRECT ITS RE-ORGANIZATION.

3. VALENZUELA (54) IS A CIVIL ENGINEER WITH EXPERIENCE IN COPPER INDUSTRY. MOST RECENTLY HE WAS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SMALL FRENCH-OWNED "DISPUTADA" MINING COMPANY. HE HAS HELD PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT POSITIONS INCLUDING VICE PRESIDENT OF GOVERNMENT CORPORATION UNDER MINMINES THAT PRECEDED PRESENT SMALL AND MEDIUM MINES ENTERPRISE (ENAMI), AND UNDER SECRETARY OF INDUSTRY IN 1961.

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PAGE 02 SANTIAGO 03078 022159Z

4. GOC OBVIOUSLY HAD DIFFICULTY FILLING MINMINES POSITION

BUT CAME UP WITH CIVILIAN WHO HAS TECHNICAL EXPERTISE AND NO
KNOWN POLITICAL AFFILIATION. WE DO NOT KNOW BACKGROUND OF
SELECTION PROCESS, BUT APPEARS VALENZUELA WAS NOT AWARE THAT
HE WAS IN THE RUNNING, AND WAS NOTIFIED, AS WAS NEW MINISTER
OF JUSTICE, ONLY AFTER LAST MINUTE GOC DECISION.
POPPER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: CABINET, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Film Number: D750155-0591
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEW MINISTER OF MINES DESIGNATED
TAGS: PGOV, EMIN, CI, (VALENZUELA BLANQUIER, ENRIQUE), (LENIZ, FERNANDO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006